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Attorney for Defendant  
Christian Anthony Romero

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

United States of America,

Plaintiff,

v.

Jose Guadalupe Lopez-Zamora,  
Leonardo Flores Beltran,  
Christian Anthony Romero,  
Baudelio Vizcarra, Jr.,  
Joaquin Alberto Sotelo Valdez,  
Erika Gabriela Zamora Rojo,  
Alejandro Tello,  
Jose Luis Aguilar Saucedo, and  
Rosario Zamora Rojo,

Defendants.

Case No.: 2:21-cr-00007-DAD

Hon. Dale A. Drozd

**ORDER APPOINTING JOHN C.  
ELLIS, JR. AS  
COORDINATING DISCOVERY  
ATTORNEY**

It is hereby **ORDERED** that John C. Ellis, Jr., is appointed as Coordinating  
Discovery Attorney for court-appointed defense counsel in the following case: *United  
States v. Jose Guadalupe Lopez-Zamora et al.*, No. 21-cr-00007 (DAD/KJN/DB).  
His time and the time spent by his staff will be paid by the Administrative Office of

1 the U.S. Courts, Defender Services Office.

2 The Coordinating Discovery Attorney shall oversee any discovery issues  
3 common to all defendants with court-appointed counsel. His responsibilities will  
4 include:  
5

- 6 • Managing and, unless otherwise agreed upon with the Government,  
7 distributing discovery produced by the Government and relevant  
8 third-party information common to defense counsel for all defendants;  
9
- 10 • Evaluating the volume and type of discovery to determine what  
11 technologies will ensure duplicative costs are avoided and the most  
12 efficient and cost-effective methods are identified;  
13
- 14 • Acting as a liaison with the United States Attorney's Office to ensure the  
15 timely and effective exchange of discovery;  
16
- 17 • Identifying, evaluating, and engaging third-party vendors and other  
18 litigation support services;  
19
- 20 • Assessing the needs of defense counsel and further identifying any  
21 additional vendor support that may be required—including copying,  
22 scanning, forensic imaging, data processing, data hosting, trial  
23 presentation, and other technology depending on the nature of the case;  
24
- 25 • Identifying any additional human resources that may be needed by  
26 defense counsel for the organization and substantive review of  
27 information; and  
28
- Providing training services to the defense teams as a group and  
individually.

24 The Coordinating Discovery Attorney's duties do not include providing  
25 representation services, and therefore will not be establishing an attorney-client  
26 relationship with any of the defendants. Discovery intended for counsel of a specific  
27 defendant and not to be shared among all defense counsel, shall be produced by the  
28

1 Government directly to defense counsel for that defendant. For discovery common  
2 to all defendants (“common discovery”), discovery issues specific to any defendant  
3 shall be addressed by defense counsel directly with the Government and not through  
4 the Coordinating Discovery Attorney.  
5

6  
7 For common discovery that has already been produced by the Government  
8 prior to this Order, the Government shall provide a copy to the Coordinating  
9 Discovery Attorney. Additional common discovery not already produced shall be  
10 provided directly to the Coordinating Discovery Attorney, who shall duplicate and  
11 distribute the discovery to all defense counsel, unless otherwise agreed to by the  
12 parties. When the Government elects to produce discovery directly to defense  
13 counsel, it shall simultaneously provide a copy to the Coordinating Discovery  
14 Attorney. The Government shall work with the Coordinating Discovery Attorney to  
15 provide discovery in a timely manner.  
16  
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18  
19 The Coordinating Discovery Attorney shall petition this Court, *ex parte*, for  
20 funds for outside services. The CDA shall monitor all vendor invoices to confirm the  
21 work that was performed. All petitions for outside services shall include a basis for  
22 the requested funds and a determination that the costs of the services are reasonable.  
23  
24 The Coordinating Discovery Attorney shall also provide this Court with monthly *ex*  
25 *parte* status reports depicting the status of work and whether that work remains  
26 within the budget of any funds authorized by the Court, with a copy provided to  
27  
28

1 defense counsel.  
2  
3

4 IT IS SO ORDERED.

5 Dated: January 19, 2023

Dale A. Drozd  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE